

# **PARKS ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**August 11, 2006**

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## MINUTES

1. Meeting called to order at 8:35 am by Rick Landavazo.
2. COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS ON ANY ITEM NOT ON TODAY'S AGENDA
  - None
3. Approval of May 12, 2006 Minutes
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MOTION TO APPROVE MAY 12, 2006 – Rod Groenewold, 2<sup>nd</sup> Mike McCoy  
ALL IN FAVOR – 6-0-0
4. Distribution of June 9, 2006 (Notes)
5. DEPARTMENT REPORT – Randy Ford
  - ◆ Renee Bahl – I would like to introduce Randy Ford who will be the new department liaison for the Parks Advisory Committee.
  - I have worked for the department for 26 years, I started at Live Oak Park as a Park Ranger. There is probably only one or two parks in the system that I haven't worked at and I worked my way up through just about all of the ranger positions and then became a District Park Manager in 1998.
  - Just wanted to let everyone know that we held the National Trails Day event in June at Los Penasquitos Canyon Preserve and it was a big success with over 1,000 attendees.
  - We had the opening of the Santa Ysabel Preserve, which includes 11.5 miles of trails a portion of which is part of the Coast to Crest trail.
  - DPR had a booth at the San Diego County Fair and it was a great chance to get more information about our Parks and programs.
  - We received three NACo awards for Fallbrook, Lakeside and Spring Valley Needs Assessment, Lakeside and Spring Valley Teen Center Outdoor Adventure program and Internet Computerized Reservation System.
  - We had a kick-off for the Take-A-Hike program on Friday, July 28<sup>th</sup>. Supervisor Roberts and Supervisor Slater-Price hosted the event along with DPR and we had approximately 75 people attend the first "hike".
  - As everyone heard the Horse Fire burned over 16,000 acres, however we only had 10 acres of County parkland burn near Lake Morena.
6. DISCUSSION ITEMS
  - PLDO and CSA Fund Balance Reports – Eric Wong
    - ◆ We were working with the CSA 26 Advisory Board (in the Rancho San Diego area) to have a new assessment fee for the area. We worked with the group and sent out ballots to all of the residents in the assessment area and the fee was approved. It was approved in July and went to the Board of Supervisors and approved to form the new Landscape Maintenance District. The vote was 56% in favor of the new fee with approximately 34% of the area residents responding to

the assessment. This should give an additional \$130,000 in maintenance funding for the parks in the area.

- PLDO Fee Increase Proposal – Matt Bohan
  - ♦ We have 24 different park planning areas in the County and are proposing varied fee increases for each of the areas based on property values in the area.
  - ♦ We have met with 16 of the planning groups so far and still have another 10 or so to meet with.
  - ♦ The reactions from the groups have been varied with about 1/3 in favor, 1/3 neutral and 1/3 opposed.
  - ♦ We are also working with the Building Industry Association and our meetings have gone well so far. They have been very amicable and asked some very good questions.
    - Mike McCoy – What are some of the areas that have been very difficult or opposed to this change?
  - ♦ We have had the strongest opposition from Lakeside, Julian, and Cuyamaca so far.
  - ♦ It would be very helpful to the department if members of this committee could attend some of these meetings or even just talk with members of the community and just be positive and talk about the need for additional park resources in the various communities.
    - Roger Utt – During the presentation of the information for this do you talk about what the buildout and people will be for the next 20 years or so?
  - ♦ Yes, we give all of the information about what the community is expected to be in 20 years (using the GP2020 model) and the park facilities and usage, etc.
    - Rick Landavazo – I think that it might be helpful to show how low these fees are compared to the other areas of the state, so that people can see the vast difference and how low San Diego County's fees are.
    - Rod Groenewold – If you could email a notice of some of the remaining meetings we could try and attend them as possible.
    - Doug Goad – I think that we really need to emphasize the need and value of parks and trails in the community.
  - ♦ The Building Industry has been very savvy in their talking with the community and trying to convince them that it is not fair to make just new home owners pay for parks that will benefit the entire community.
    - Roger Utt – When a developer builds its own park onsite how does it affect the PLDO fees?
  - ♦ There are two options for the developer when they are building a new development. If they are creating a park facility that would be a private park for the community only they can receive up to 50% credit against the PLDO fees for the park, if they are going to create a park that is for public use it can be up to 100% of the PLDO fees.
    - Roger Utt – I look at these numbers and I can see the amount of time and preparation that went into creating this information. In the long run how do you allow for increase of these fees over time?
  - ♦ When we went to the communities a few years ago there was unanimous opposition to any automatic escalator incorporated into the fees, so we did not include it as part of this. We have instead made more of a timeframe to revisit this so that it does not go as long as it has and make such a large jump as it is this time.

- FY 2006-08 Operational Plan and Budget – Renée Bahl
  - ♦ Distributed the 2006-08 Operational Plan for Parks and Recreation.
  - ♦ This document has different sections such as the 2005-06 accomplishments, 2006-08 Objectives (goals), and changes from the 2005-06 operational plan, which includes additional staffing. These new positions is one of the highlights and what I believe is one of the greatest benefits that we received.
- 7. Opportunity for Members of Public to Speak on Any Items Not on Today's Agenda
  - None
- 8. ADJOURNMENT
  - Adjourned at 9:25 am.

ATTENDEES:

Mike McCoy, District 1  
John Degenfelder, District 2  
Doug Goad, District 3  
Roger Utt, District 4  
Rick Landavazo, District 5  
Rod Groenewold, District 5  
Renée Bahl, County of San Diego Parks and Recreation  
Randy Ford, County of San Diego Parks and Recreation  
Eric Wong, County of San Diego Parks and Recreation  
Matt Bohan, County of San Diego Parks and Recreation  
Sabrina Hicks, County of San Diego Parks and Recreation